

LACDMH WINS COUNTY QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY AWARDS

By Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige, Public Information Officer



On Wednesday, October 17, 2012, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) received recognition from the Quality and Productivity Commission (QPC) for several projects that enhanced employee productivity and improved the quality of services provided to the public. The QPC handed out awards to LACDMH and many other Los Angeles County departments for its effective and efficient programs at the QPC's 26th annual Productivity and Quality Awards luncheon, "Investing in a Quality Future", at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in downtown Los Angeles. "For me, the most important part of this (the awards ceremony) is that we recognize the people who do the job," said William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer for Los Angeles County.

LACDMH received several awards for its programs and projects which were either LACDMH-led or collaborative efforts. "I think these awards demonstrate the Department of Mental Health's commitment to collaboration with all the county's departments for the good of the residents of Los Angeles County. I'm so proud that we could contribute to this," stated LACDMH Director, Marvin Southard, D.S.W.

LACDMH took the lead in the following projects which received honors:

Top Ten Award



LACDMH led the *LAC+USC Medical Center Street to Home Project* in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors First District, Chief Executive Office, Department of Health Services, Department of Public Health, Department of Public Social Services, Office of County Counsel and Sheriff's Department. The project provides outreach, engagement and eventual placement in permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless and vulnerable individuals who are living on and near the campus of the LAC+USC Medical Center. The project has managed to redirect 40 homeless individuals to Exodus Urgent Care Center for integrated treatment of physical health, mental health and substance abuse issues as well as linked them to ongoing primary and mental health care.

Mega Million Dollar Award



The *Mental Health Services Act Housing Program* led this effort with the Community Development Commission/Housing Authority for the Mega Million Dollar Award. The award is given to the top program that reported the most cost savings, cost avoidance and/or revenue generated. The Housing Program strategically leveraged local, state and federal funding to maximize LACDMH's investment of \$115 million in Mental Health Services Act funding into a \$551 million pool for the development of permanent supportive housing (PSH). Working with County management and stakeholders, 21 private housing developers are involved with building 33 new PSH projects that will create apartments for clients and their families.

LACDMH also received recognition for its involvement in the following projects:

Top Ten Award



- **Bronze Eagle Award Winner.** *Contractor Alert Reporting Database*/Office of Auditor-Controller with Office of County Counsel, Internal Services Department, Chief Executive Office, Department of Public Social Services, Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Health Services, Department of Mental Health and Department of Public Health.



- *Enhancements to the GR SSIMAP Advocacy Program/Department of Public Social Services with Department of Health Services, Department of Mental Health and Sheriff's Department*



Performance Measurement Award

- *Coordinated Services Action Teams/Department of Children and Family Services with Department of Mental Health*



Traditional Plaque Winner



- *Developmentally Disabled Youth Program (DDYP)/Probation Department with Department of Health Services, Department of Mental Health and Los Angeles Superior Court*